DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 375 194 UD 030 018

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TITLE Cultural Awareness for Children.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-201-28731-5
PUB DATE 92
NOTE 267p.
AVAILABLE FROM Addison-Wesley Distribution Center, 5851 Guian Road, Indianapolis, IN 46254.
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Guides - Classroom Use - Teaching Guides (For Teacher) (052)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Chinese Culture; *Cultural Awareness; Cultural Differences; Cultural Pluralism; Curriculum Development; *Educational Methods; Elementary Education; *Elementary School Students; *Foreign Culture; Hispanic American Culture; Japanese; Japanese American Culture; *Kindergarten Children; Korean Culture; *Learning Activities; Lesson Plans; Mexican Americans; Minority Groups; Parent Participation; *Preschool Children; School Activities; Units of Study
IDENTIFIERS Diversity (Groups); Learning Tree; Southeast Asians; Thai People

ABSTRACT

This book documents a portion of The Learning Tree program, which develops cultural awareness. It provides activities, written from practical experience, that are designed to give children their first contact with the customs of other cultures. These activities are for teachers to share with preschool-, kindergarten-, and primary-school-age children. Each unit has been reviewed by a native of that culture to make sure that the material is as authentic as possible and does not promote stereotypes. The program examines and shares the lifestyles, foods, and customs of various cultures. This hands-on approach is used in all the activities. Children also role-play the customs and lifestyles they learn about, using clothing, household items, tools, pictures, and other artifacts to add reality to the dramatization. Parents also share information about their own cultural backgrounds. Units include the following cultures: African and African American; American Indian; Chinese and Chinese American; Japanese and Japanese American; Korean and Korean American; Mexican and Mexican American; Thai; and Southeast Asian. (GLR)

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